



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Preliminary majority prices were trending higher in the West; unchanged in the Northeast and Midwest. Trade sentiment was firm in the West, steady elsewhere. Retail demand was seasonally light with interest centering on more traditional holiday items. Food service was mostly moderate to good, best for fast food and restaurant activity. Processing schedules were mixed with some operations down Friday and or Monday in observance of the holiday. Supplies were at least adequate or available. In the parts structure, trading was generally light to fair. Availability was mixed, and fully sufficient for current trade needs. In production areas, live supplies were moderate with weights in a full range but mostly desirable.

**Preliminary report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 04/12/04-04/16/04 (cents per lb)

### US GRADE A (Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	71.00-74.00	69.75-81.00	73.29	28
Los Angeles	80.00			
New York	75.00-77.00			
<b>Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent</b>				
Mississippi	74.50-76.50	72.50-79.00	75.36	84

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
915	69.00-77.00	74.32
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG.	VOLUME
	(CENTS PER POUND)	(000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	256.50	1,229
BREASTS - B/S	227.50	5,391
BREASTS - WHOLE	122.50	1,785
THIGH MEAT - B/S	111.50	996
LEG QUARTERS	34.50	7,557
WINGS	130.00	2,900

This information is supplied by the GA Dept. of Agriculture's poultry market news service.

**MIDWEST** Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged from last Monday's final. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady. Trade and offerings were limited with shortages continuing to be noted on small sized birds. Retail and food service ranged from light to good; best demand into fast food and restaurants. Floor stocks were well cleared to adequate. Weights mostly desirable. Trade activity was sporadic, but overall light on light to moderate offerings. The market tone was mixed on wings and breast items and steady to weak on dark meat lines.

**SOUTHERN** Trade sentiment was generally steady entering the holiday weekend. Retail demand was seasonally light to fair as buyers look to more traditional holiday meat items. Food Service was fair to good, best for fast food promotions. Supplies were usually sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was light to fair with supplies of all items ranging adequate to available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

**NORTHEAST** Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly fair to moderate entering the holiday weekend. Offerings of the 3 pound and lighter birds were adequate to balanced. The heavier weights were usually available. Retail and distributive draw was seasonally light and selective. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least adequate but noted as better balanced today. Dark meat cuts were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were sufficient.

**WESTERN** Preliminary majority prices 1 cent higher than last week. The market tone was firm. Early trading reported at generally higher prices. Buying activity was fair. Offerings in fairly good balance. Retailer demand was moderate best to cover features. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

**Arizona** – whole body 99-139, boneless breast 329-499, boneless breast tenders 349, drumstick 99-129, thigh 99-129;

**Colorado** – roaster 99, boneless breast 299-349, drumstick 99-129, thigh 99-129, (deli food service – fried 50 piece mixed 2699, whole rotisserie chicken each 499);

**Idaho** – whole body 69, boneless breast 4# bagged IQF 1099, drumstick 79, thigh 79, (deli food service – whole rotisserie chicken each 499);

**Northern California** – whole body 99-139, whole cut-up 139, whole body organic 269, Cornish hens 279, roaster 139, kosher roaster 169, boneless breast 329, boneless fillets 299;

**Southern California** – whole body 78-89, whole cut-up 118-149, Cornish hen 6 count 998, roaster 99-149, duck 149, boneless breast 197-267, boneless combo pack [breast and thigh] 197, boneless leg meat 99-149, boneless leg meat marinated 99, split breast 97-139, leg quarters 10# bagged 290-570, leg quarters 40# case 1599, whole leg 79, thighs 79-99, drumstick 69-99, (deli food service - fried 16 piece drumstick and thigh 498, whole rotisserie chicken each 478-499).

**DELMARVA** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was seasonally light and sufficient in keeping the bulk of available offerings cleared satisfactorily. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable. Processings schedules were very light as some plants closed in observance of the Religious Holiday. Additional plants planned to close on Monday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, supplies were generally adequate.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

### BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	70-92
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	79.27
NO. OF BOXES	11,369
CUMULATIVE	
	04/05/04-04/09/04
	04/07/03-04/11/03
NO. OF BOXES	40,157
	04/05/04-04/09/04
	04/07/03-04/11/03

\*7 of 7 plants reporting.

APR 08

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

APR 09

ITEM	POUNDS				WTD	POUNDS				WTD	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG		(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG		(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,017	207.00-296.00	209-213	217.32		887	212.00-296.00	215-218	222.17		4,575	218.22
TENDERLOINS	228	230.00-278.00	230-238	238.49		173	229.00-278.00	235-237	241.18		1,285	232.71
BREAST - LINE RUN	123	115.00-127.00	116-118	117.84		203	115.00-127.00	-	122.51		685	119.21
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					290	112.21
LEGS	88	40.00-56.00	-	41.45		113	38.00-56.00	38-40	40.69		548	40.29
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	555	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.77		636	29.00-33.00	30-31	30.79		2,931	30.75
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,020	31.00-38.00	33-35	34.29		1,380	32.00-38.00	33-35	33.64		5,565	33.63
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	120.00-134.00	124-126	126.96		297	120.00-126.00	124-126	123.95		1,553	125.38
WINGS (CUT)	574	137.00-142.00	137-139	138.81		568	137.00-142.00	137-139	138.56		2,779	138.64
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					70	57.37
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT					TOO FEW TO REPORT					140	54.40
B/S THIGHS	120	99.00-118.00	-	111.17		107	98.00-118.00	-	111.64		538	110.94
*****												
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS												
TRADING FOR APRIL 08, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.												

**RANGE****TODAY'S AVERAGE****RANGE****TODAY'S AVERAGE****5-DAY AVERAGE**

68.00 - 74.50

71.94

68.50 - 74.50

72.17

71.49

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** - Trucklot buying activity increased slightly entering the holiday weekend but was mostly moderate overall. Offerings of breast items at least adequate but noted as better balanced at times. Dark meat items were adequate to fully adequate. Wings were sufficient. Retail and distributive draw was about fair. The market tone was generally steady.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

APR 09

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	220	216.91	825,160		220	216.70	314,683		215.83	2,907,403
TENDERLOINS	235	210.44	173,610		235	222.37	42,880		219.85	585,900
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115	120.91	83,440		114-115	120.70	98,440		120.44	602,120
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	114.91	126,760		114	115.50	72,000		113.84	589,280
LEGS	42-43	42.54	356,720		42-43	40.13	181,202		42.21	1,476,281
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	33.43	566,668		33-34	33.60	178,799		33.36	2,046,620
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	40.01	190,240		31-32	37.92	147,480		39.34	775,480
THIGHS	42-43	48.17	104,600		42-43	47.80	49,100		47.89	380,100
B/S THIGHS	110-111	108.38	113,060		110-111	108.55	27,400		107.48	363,480
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	122.44	224,320		116-117	130.59	46,230		124.79	764,030
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.10	41,120		10-12	12.80	5,320		12.07	143,200
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.39	18,640		35-40	26.24	13,080		30.39	85,020
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.43	22,000		55-60	60.00	17,400		58.78	115,910

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS
	04/09	04/08	04/07	04/06	04/07	04/06	04/02	03/31	
ALA	3,462	3,956	3,904	3,827	5.26	5.30	3,685	5.18	
ARK	4,825	5,280	5,170	5,354	5.08	5.60	5,403	5.02	
DELMARVA	1,674	2,222	2,179	2,143	5.48	5.50	2,149	5.50	
KY-LA-TN	1,920	1,975	2,041	1,983	5.09	5.10	1,905	5.02	
MISS	2,930	3,019	3,132	3,083	5.42	5.43	3,123	5.48	
NC	1,974	2,453	2,373	2,413	6.44	6.39	2,582	6.52	
TEXAS	2,212	2,230	2,312	2,286	5.02	5.10	2,216	4.99	
TOTAL	18,997	21,135	21,111	21,089	5.35	5.50	21,063	5.33	
MON-FRI	103,642(A)				104,113(A)				

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 09-Apr 04 and 10-Apr-04 is estimated to be 28,422,000 down 10.08 percent from a week ago and down 5.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,607,000; last year 30,080,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 10-Apr-04 is estimated to be 149,984,000 head down 1 percent from a week ago, and down -1 from a year ago.

(Last week 152,052,000 Last year 152,185,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-113
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	104
ROASTERS 4# & UP	107-109
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	105-107
HENS OVER 5#	88-93
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS	162-185

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 27-Mar-04 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning  
Food service  
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	26,131	26,466	47,557
Avg Weight	3.58	4.76	6.24
% of total /1	26%	26%	47%

## COMPARISONS

Last week	27,824	20,869	47,669
Avg Weight	3.49	4.76	6.30
% of total /1	29%	22%	49%

Same week, yr ago /2	33,617	26,598	49,199
Avg Weight	3.86	4.73	6.04
% of total /1	31%	24%	45%

To date/2004	315,726	260,292	526,147
To date/2003	293,174	264,460	516,166

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** W/E 03-Apr-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	152,052	1,234	1,172	2,406	507
AVG WT	5.19	3.42	8.22	5.76	6.28
LAST WEEK	152,749	1,254	1,222	2,476	481
SAME WK YR AGO	156,255	1,801	1,347	3,148	422
AVG WT	5.06	3.3	7.94	5.29	6.54
TO-DATE/2004	1,994,439	16,508	16,378	32,886	6,019
TO-DATE/2003	1,964,101	22,005	17,662	39,667	5,450

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.9 million head or 3 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION -** APRIL 06, 2004

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

\*\*AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY\*\*

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.25 - 1.30	Pigeons	3.00 - 3.25 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.40 - 1.50	White Pigeons	5.00 - 5.25 ea.
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.30 - .40	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.70 - 1.10	4-6 LBS	1.35 - 1.45
Crossbred Roosters		Rabbits	
4-6 LBS	1.00 - 1.20	6-9 LBS	1.20 - 1.30
Crossbred Roosters		Bunnies	2.00 - 8.00 ea.
7-11 LBS	.70 - .90	Guinea Pigs	3.00 - 7.00 ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.90 - 2.25	Goats	37.00 - 45.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 4.50ea.	Kid Goats	23.00 - 26.00 ea.
Banty Hens	3.00 - 3.25ea.	Doves	5.00 - 7.00 ea.
Silkie	2.75 - 3.25ea.	Pullets	1.30 - 1.40 ea.
Geese 9-14 LBS	.75 - .80	Total Coops Sold	770

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 05-APR-2003

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	77.00-80.00	78.00-79.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65.00-87.50	67.00-77.00

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was fairly good to good. Schedules full-time. Weights were in the desirable range. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 05-APR-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY 28	154.6	156.8	99%	5.17
MARCH 6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
13	159.1	157	101%	5.06
20	154.9	158.6	98%	5.15
27	154.6	158	98%	5.16
APRIL 3	153.9	156.9	98%	5.19
YEAR TO DATE	2018.8	2042	99%	
APRIL 10		157.6		
17		158.8		

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

Under Federal Inspection

	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	04/10/04	04/03/04	% CHG	04/11/03	% CHG
Broilers	149,984	152,052*	-01	152,185*	-01
Cattle	564	578	-02	651*	-13
Hogs	1,973	1,928	+02	1,902*	+04

\*ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Sales were too few to report on heavy cannery. Light cannery were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for lights; fair to moderate for heavies with most available supplies being used internally. Limited offerings were clearing satisfactorily. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

**LIGHT CANNER HENS****(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

25-31 MAJORITY 25.5-26

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

**LIGHT CANNER HENS****(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

27-32 MAJORITY 27.5-28.5

**HEAVY CANNER HENS****(WITHOUT NECKS)**

TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

**HEAVY CANNER HENS****(WITHOUT NECKS)**

TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

**LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION** Majority prices were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Offering of spent fowl were generally more than sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules less than normal. Opinions on removal cost were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	8.5-10.5

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Bookings were too few to report. Demand was light for spent hens. Schedules easily serviced a fair call for finished product. Salvage costs were expected to remain unchanged.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS** Costs for removal were unchanged. Demand was light to moderate while offerings continue adequate to slightly more available as spent hens are scheduled for removal after the Easter holiday. Opinions of value were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	4.5-10.5	4.5-5

**WEST COAST LIGHT** Plant schedules heavier. Offerings ample.

**HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \***

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 12 -APR-04

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for offerings that were generally adequate. Processing schedules for next week were reported as less than normal to normal. Supplies of finished product were well cleared. The undertone was at least steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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